

PUBLIC HEARING NOISE ORDINANCE NOTES

8.31.2021

Meeting time 6 – 7:30

33 citizens in attendance

10 city staff members to include

1 council aide from D3 and 1 D1

7 DSD staff

1 city attorney

Overview by Deputy director Amin Tohmaz

Name	Public Comments	Staff response
	Can I talk about the pilot program, mentioned it is not decided, it is still a proposal?	Staff response, it is still a proposal, 5-6 officers monitoring for 3 days per week enforcing the current code. Starting Oct 2021
	Is presentation online? Answer yes	
	Is pilot program going to have enforcement capability or just monitor?	Answer is yes, we just received decibel readers
	Mentioned education for trial program, I would love to see education be a larger part of pilot program. I have experience with sound levels for years. It is complicated. Hope the city takes a unique approach such a doorhanger approach first. Help the citizen understand how it impacts community. In clubs there are ways to have them mitigate the sound. DSD is already doing that with builders and contractors.	Thank you for comments
	I too am in the sound bus for 50 years, it would be good for SA to lead the nation in sound ordinance. If the person doesn't know how to use the sound meter, then they are useless. Also, everything changes how sound comes out, could be weather. Houses may be affected with certain frequencies. I play music at the Beethoven in king William. Some houses do not have double pane windows which would help prevent sound from entering neighboring homes. I have seen where maybe the city needs a vehicle that take all factors into account. Temp, wind, meter. You must keep reflections out. I do agree a lot of education has to happen, not everyone knows everything. We need people to come in and help. I would not like loud music keeping me up. My neighborhood is like the "Tet offensive" every new year's. The people enforcing it need to be properly trained. Must take everything into account. We must be careful. There are people that	

	build walls around a highway. Stopping noise at 11pm is great. People need to understand sound is hard to control. It is all about education.	
MS Crenshaw	I live next door to Beethoven for last 5 years. I understand science is sound but if noise penetrates my house. It is not right. I have a clip to play to show how loud the sound is in my house. The officers do not enforce the noise correctly, they have repeatedly told me its ok before 11pm. Anyone saying decibel should not matter. Single pane windows don't matter. Entertainment venues should be required to have noise limits and put up barriers to prevent loud noise in res areas.	
Mr. parsons	I am here to speak on behalf of Beethoven, I strongly oppose the implementation of many recommendations that are being discussed. They would negatively impact the Beethoven which is a nonprofit. Serves comm at large to experience German culture. I do not begrudge the future. Hope that we work together instead of against each other. King William, The Pearl and St Mary's are now hip place that San Antonians can enjoy. What about people that visit these entertainment zones, we should allow them to enjoy. A higher stricter ordinance will create a burden on SAPD. Local businesses will be unduly burdened as well, the limitations will be the final nail in the coffin. Clarify the ordinance rather than expand the restrictions	I have not presented any changes or recommendations, also the task force meeting is open to the public
	I am a homeowner in north SA. I also love Beethoven established 150 years ago. It was established as a music venue. In my case we have owned our home for 20 years and a bar has moved in next door and plays loud music. Many officers have told me the meter does not show its loud enough to act. The bass noise has driven us from the enjoyment of our back yard. If we do not provide the right tools and the right rules the noise level and the times does matter so we can enjoy our yard. The gentleman that spoke earlier had some good ideas for baffling, it would be nice if bus delivered noise to patrons and not my yard	Take my card, we will refer to SAPD, or test our meters at first location
	I just have comment, we live of St Mary's strip for over 45 years. We have become accustomed to the music. But there are bars that are too loud. We have double pane windows but it still too loud. Bars and are too loud. There are times SAPD come but not sure where they check the music. I have called some bars, and some do lower volume. There are some that do not, they will do as they please. I feel for the other lady because we face the same issue. There are bars that are very loud with no consideration for neighbors. I have no problem with people visiting strip it is just the noise. I am glad we are going through process of task force and hope we get results	
Athena	My name is Athena I live in Woodlawn. First night I moved I couldn't go to sleep until 1:30 in the morning, I had to call police every night except Mondays. The	Take my card, we will refer to SAPD

	corner bar is too loud. My sleep is disturbed, I work 12 hours but cannot get any sleep. I live in a corner home across from bar. It's the lighthouse. I know other people hear the noise as well. That I must call every night is ridiculous. SAPD is responsive but don't want to keep calling	
	David nelson music director at Beethoven. We support the Beethoven. And oppose any new restrictions. We support enforcing current rules correctly. One spike of one reading is not appropriate. Multiple readings are more appropriate. Education of public, citizens, the enforcement. Sometimes they get loud, sometimes they are quiet. When we contract bands, we explain the rules. We are trying to be good neighbors. We need better response times and better training. Several people here in support. Thank you	
	Strangling, original owner from late 80s. I don't believe that education works. We need enforcement. We are currently teaching people there are no consequences for their actions. We keep bringing up the decibel levels. There are 5 other ordinance rules that apply before decibel levels. If I can hear it in my house, then it's too loud. Cars are also too loud not sure if anyone has been pulled over for loud cars. I don't believe there are enough code officers to enforce. SAPD is better enforcement but they need to enforce. I want to know why the other rules are not being discussed. I have a dog, but people leave their dogs outside that are loud as well. It's not ok to be as loud.	
	Crenshaw again. .10 % only got citations. That is why nothing changes. I don't think issues are resolved because no one calls back. To assume issue is resolved is ok. I would like to know the raw data is online. I also want to say about sitting in your home and watch tv. If I cannot hear my own tv is that it's too loud. I am requesting that Beethoven to put up a sound barrier would be a good effort. I have readers running all the time. To be a good neighbor would be to install a sound barrier	
	Is repeated number of calls for same location being considered on the SAPD data. Is there data from the same complainant being taken?	Unfortunately, no because anonymous calls can be made
	How long will pilot program last	Start October for 3 months. We can then study data
	The last 2 people that spoke. I could understand them perfectly without amplification. When its full of people it's necessary for people to speak up. But if they are outside and are a certain size may need amplification. I live 1 mile from school practicing and can hear them.	
	When will you have an idea of when adoptions to start the pilot program.	We will know sept 16
	I am assuming they are waiting for council to allocate funding. I worked for the city	correct

	Where can we see the proposal	Mike S, sept 16, city is proposing to give CE to give budget to have OT. There is not a lot of money but something to start with. Everything we here is that it's a good idea. We are not changing code. We will push out the information on our website. It will more than likely pass.
	Can we request an officer to come out to our house? Currently pd comes out and measures at the street. I disagree with that location	We will work on Thursday - Friday- sat on those 3 nights a code officer will respond. We are going to follow todays code. It is currently at the prop line. To clarify it's the prop line of the complaint location
	If I can hear noise or music in my house, a decibel level is not needed. Why can't I get anything done without a reader? Noise Ord doesn't mention Dec level.	Legal: misunderstanding that we only enforce decibel level and that is not true. There is a section of code with 21-52. 2 ways to approach either with decibel reading or just the nuisance, a reasonable person standard. We need people to testify in court. A witness needs to testify to judge or jury and that is limited due to anonymous calls. We need you to come in and be willing to testify. Feel free to let officer know legal refers them to 21-52
	Will there be more meetings	There is another online meeting next. We have another scheduled-on WebEx on Thursday. MIKE S adds. Is this first meeting for most. This process will likely happen for next several months. You can login on WebEx on Thursday meeting or during the task force meetings. I encourage you to get the word out. We want thousands of people's feedback.